

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 - 42 remain in this application. Claims 22, 23, 24 and 30 have been amended as the result of an earlier restriction requirement, as presented in the preliminary amendment dated October 16, 2003.

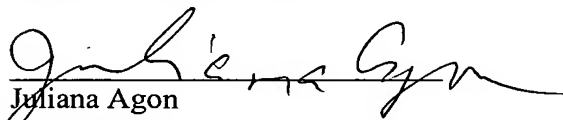
Based upon the above amendments and papers of records, applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Reply timely. Should applicant be in error, applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Juliana Agon at 607-974-6574.

DATE: 2/10/04

Respectfully submitted,



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